Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal



Food in health security in North East Asia

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Abstract:

Food and health security in North East Asia including South Korea, North Korea, China and Japan was compared. Because this region contains countries with many complex problems, it is worthwhile to study the current situation. With about 24% of the world's population, all North East Asian countries supply between 2400 and 3000 Kcal of energy. Regarding health status, two extreme problems exist. One is malnutrition in North Korea and China and the other is chronic degenerative disease in Japan, South Korea and China. Because quality, quantity and safety of the food supply have to be secured for health security, some topics are selected and discussed. 1) World food price can have an effect on food security for countries with a low food self sufficiency rate such as Japan and Korea; specially, for the urban poor. 2) Population aging can increase the number of aged people without food security. An aged population with less income and no support from their off-spring, because of disappearing traditional values, may have food insecurity. 3) Population growth and economic growth in this region may worsen food problems. Since a quarter of the world's population resides in this region, populations will continue to increase. With economic growth, people will consume more animal products. 4) Climate change generates food production problems. As the progress of industry continues, there will be less land for food and more pollutants in the environment. 5) Political instability will cause food insecurity and conflict will cause problems with regard to food aid.

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Resource Description

Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Food/Water Security

Food/Water Security: Food Access/Distribution

Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

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Non-United States

Non-United States: Asia

Asian Region/Country: Other Asian Country

Other Asian Country: South Korea; North Korea; China; Japan

Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Malnutrition/Undernutrition, Other Health Impact

Other Health Impact: Chronic degenerative disease

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status

Resource Type: M

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale: M

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

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resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content